GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:306
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2001
POLLUTION OVER INDIAN OCEAN
S. SAIDUZZAMAN

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether pollution over Indian Ocean has assumed serious proportions;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the results of studies conducted in this regard in India and abroad;

(c) whether such air pollution has also been aggravated by man made forest fires in Indonesia/Malaysia in the recent past;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a)to(e): An international collaborative study on `Indian Ocean Research Experiment (INDOEX)` has indicated haze over the Indiar Ocean which may vary from year to year. Conclusive data are not available indicating impacts of forest fires from Indonesia/Malaysia on air pollution in Indian Ocean. Various steps have been taken by the Government to control air pollution in the country.